

For Immediate Release

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***MUSIC FOR FARMS TO PLAY MAY 7 BENEFIT CONCERT
FOR ROCKLAND FARM ALLIANCE IN CHESTNUT RIDGE, NY***

Rockland County, NY-based composer, pianist and percussionist [John McDowell](#) teams up with Canadian violinist Emmanuel Vukovich and cellist [Julia MacLaine](#) to create the musical ensemble **Music For Farms** which will perform a concert entitled “An Agricultural Rite of Spring” at the Threefold Auditorium at 260 Hungry Hollow Road, Chestnut Ridge, NY on Friday, May 7, 2010 at 8pm. Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$20 (\$15 for students, \$10 for children). For more information, call 845-362-0207 or email events@rocklandfarm.org.

John McDowell and Emmanuel Vukovich, who practice music and farming side by side (McDowell at Camp Hill Farm in Pomona, NY; and Vukovich in Quebec, Canada), have formed an international initiative, Music for Farms (www.johnmcdowell.net/musicforfarms), which works to revive and sustain local organic agriculture and farming communities through the arts. **Julia MacLaine** joins them for this special concert. The program, described below, includes the music of Bach and several original works in contemporary and classical idioms, such as their own composition based on the Parsifal legend. The trio’s creative arrangements reflect a weaving of eastern and western traditions, incorporating African drum rhythms. **This concert will be a benefit for the Rockland Farm Alliance (RFA). The mission of the RFA (www.rocklandfarm.org) is to facilitate local sustainable agriculture in Rockland County, New York.**

Juilliard and McGill trained Emmanuel Vukovich is the recipient of Canada's first Golden Violin Award, as well as the Canada Council for the Arts Orford String Quartet scholarship. His twin passions of farming and music are brought to expression in this artistic Rite of Spring. John McDowell is best known as composer of the score to Oscar winning *Born into Brothels*. He has toured with platinum selling rock/world band Rusted Root as a pianist and percussionist and founded/led the internationally acclaimed band Mamma Tongue. Cellist Julia MacLaine has been consistently singled out by critics for her rich tone, sweet vibrato and superb musicianship. Her performances at Carnegie Hall, in Europe, North and South America and Iceland have established her as one of today's prominent cellists.

The program for “An Agricultural Rite of Spring” will be drawn from the following selections:

Parcifal and Zazamanc, by John McDowell and Emmanuel Vukovich
F major, by John McDowell
Pachamama's Catharsis, by Pedro Malpica
Swara Kakali (transcription of a work by Yehudi Menuhin and Ravi Shankar)
Solo violin works by Bach
Popular Tango and Brazilian selections



John McDowell & Emmanuel Vukovich



Julia MacLaine